



June 29, 2015

Benefit Increase

Starting October 1, 2015, all women (pregnant, breastfeeding, postpartum) will receive \$11 for their fruit and vegetable benefit. Blair is working on updating the system to reflect the change for any October issuance. The change will be deployed on Wednesday, so remember to update local reference data after you log-in that morning. We are asking for guidance from FNS on how to issue to mother's fully breastfeeding multiples. Look for more information in newsletters to come.

Reimbursement of Registration and Travel Expenses for Breastfeeding Training

Montana WIC submitted and received an Infrastructure Grant this year primarily for breastfeeding training and breastfeeding awareness. Two upcoming trainings that were included for reimbursement of registration and/or travel expenses are [Certified Lactation Counselor](#) (two times) and [Loving Support Training](#). Complete the application forms and submit to [Chris](#) or fax 406-444-0239.

Survey for Nutrition and Breastfeeding Materials

A short list of nutrition and breastfeeding materials is being considered for purchase. If you already have an item and do not need more, that is fine. We do not want to over purchase. Please complete the [short survey](#) and return to [Chris](#) or fax to 406-444-5285. If you have any questions, let Chris know.

2015 Civil Rights Training

Just a reminder, The [Civil Rights Training](#) **MUST** be completed by **ALL** local agency staff members by July 10, 2015. This training is completed online via PowerPoint. Once completed, sign the [attached form](#). Submit via email, fax or mail to the State WIC office: Lacy Little RD, LN, CLEC \ 406-444-5923 \ Lalittle@mt.gov

July 1 Changes

Remember to switch to the new food list on July 1! We will also deploy the "Amount of sale may not exceed..." and "Buying, selling or otherwise" language on that day for the infant fresh fruit and vegetable benefit. Please reset your local reference data when you first logon to M-SPIRIT for the change to work without incident. If you have any question or issues, call the helpdesk.

Time Study

Wow! Summer is here. Time for July Time Studies! Please record all WIC time spent beginning with the first day in July that you work and continue until the last day worked for the month. Do not count days when you are on vacation or out sick, just the minutes you are paid for WIC related work. **Please** do not wait until the end of the month to try and recall what happened that first Wednesday of the month. We suggest a review of State Plan [Policy 4.7 \(Time Studies\)](#) as a reminder of the regulation. If you have any problems, please call the HelpDesk at 444-2740 or e-mail rmichaelis@mt.gov.

Soy Formula Update

WSCA has sent information that the expected announcement of the new soy formula bid award would be July 6, 2015. Please do not issue any benefits with Enfamil ProSobee for the month of October. Mead Johnson did not wish to renew their contract. Our contract with Mead Johnson will end September 30, 2015. Montana will not receive a rebate for any ProSobee infant formula issued for October or later.

Auf Wiedersehen!

These are my last 4 days as a State WIC employee and I will admit that I am going to miss all of you! I am not worried that the State program will be diminished, but know that my replacement will become an even better advocate for the administrative side of WIC. I want to thank you for these last 3 years and 7 months of my work history – I have truly enjoyed the dedicated people that work in this most important program. I am still just as in awe of the number of years of experience that there is represented by our amazing local staff as I was at my first State training! Thank you for making my job as easy as it was. Be calm and carry on -- Bernadette

Verify State Computer Inventory

If you have not already, please verify your agency's state computer inventory! This inventory is meant to identify all existing equipment in the clinics, as well as any missing items. This inventory covers computers, laptops, monitors, printers, signature pads, and scanners. Please take a moment to print your inventory list from the Spirit Utilities website; it is titled "Inventory Survey" and is located under the Reports menu. Verify that the items listed are in fact located in your clinic. If an item is not located in your clinic, please note that on the form. If you have any items in the clinic that are not listed on the form, then please make note of them; we need to know what they are and the serial or service tag numbers.

Please return your completed inventory form to the State WIC Office by June 30, 2015, by email (hhswhc@mt.gov) or fax (406-444-0239).

If you have any questions please call the WIC Helpdesk (1-800-433-4298, opt 1).

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Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

